

Ottawa Jewish Bulletin

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THE OTTAWA JEWISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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GUEST OF HADASSAH



The annual "Give Or Get Dinner", under the auspices of the Ottawa Council of Hadassah, will be held tonight at the Chateau Laurier, at 7.30 p.m. The guest speaker for the occasion will be Dr. Sasia Erlich.

Dr. Erlich, who is now making her home in New York, comes of a prominent French family. Herself a lawyer, she was associated with her brother in the legal profession at the time he was a deputy of the French Parliament. As vice-president of the Zionist Women's Organization of France she travelled extensively, lecturing in many French cities, as well as Belgium, Egypt, Algiers, Tunis and Morocco. In connection with her Zionist interests Dr. Erlich visited Palestine on six different occasions, and she gathered a wealth of material that her gifts of journalism brought vividly to the attention of educated readers all over the world. Since coming to America she has won a recognized position as one of the most stimulating orators on problems of Jewish interest.

The convener of the dinner, Mrs. Louis Coplan, announces that an added treat awaits the women who come in the form of a film in technicolour, portraying scenes in modern Palestine.

Taking part in the program for the evening will be Mrs. Lawrence Freiman, who will act as chairman; Rabbi O. Z. Fasman, who will deliver a brief message of greeting; Mrs. Gordon Caplan, who will introduce the speaker; and Miss Eileen Rivers, who will move the vote of thanks.

ONEG SHABBAT

The Congregation Agudath Achim, Rideau St. continues to act as host for the coming weeks of the Oneg Shabbat services, held every Friday at 8:30 p. m. The Hebrew Zemiroth are in charge of Cantor A. Weiss, and the English services are read by Rabbi O. Z. Fasman. The gathering welcomes all the members of our community, as well as visitors to the city. The percentage of young people who attend regularly brings gratification to the leaders of the Vaad Ha'Ir, which sponsors this integral part of the spiritual life of Ottawa Jewry.

The sermon topics are announced as follows: Dec. 12, 1941, Y.P.L. Sabbath (Dr. Petegorsky); Dec. 19, 1941, "Menorah In The Blackout"; Dec. 26, 1941, "Unread Books"; Jan. 2, 1942, "How Many Resolutions?"; Jan. 9, 1942, "The Cradle of Leadership". (The rabbinical committee, under the chairmanship of Mr. L. S. Greenberg, will continue its efforts to have at least one guest speaker for one of these evenings, in which case the public will be informed of the change.)

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VAAD HA'IR ELECTION

At the annual meeting of the Vaad Ha'Ir, held in the Talmud Torah, December 2nd, Mr. A. J. Freiman was again elected president. Other officers chosen were: C. Caplan and T. Sachs, vice-president; M. Dworkin, treasurer; B. Pearl, honorary secretary; L. H. Goldman, secretary.

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OVERSEAS LIST GROWS

At the time this article is being written the Bnai Brith War Services Committee has learned of the following additions to the fifty-two names previously published of Ottawa men in the Active Forces Overseas:—

Driver N. Slack
Sergeant R. Zumar
Sergeant-Pilot H. Zumar

MIZRACHI LEADER



Mr. M. Morton Rubinstein, a vice-president of the American Mizrachi Organization, will be the principal speaker at the Annual Mizrachi Dinner, to be held in the Talmud Torah Hall, Sunday, December 14th at 6.30 p.m. A native of New York, Mr. Rubinstein has devoted many years of a busy public life to the furtherance of the Zionist ideal in the spirit of traditional Judaism, and he is widely recognized for the forceful manner in which he upholds this viewpoint.

Mr. Rubinstein is a member of the Executive Board of the Jewish National Fund in America, and a member of the Administrative Council of the American Jewish Congress. He heads a girl's seminary for Hebrew teachers, and contributes editorially to the Jewish Outlook. His travels in Europe and Palestine have given him direct contact with the most vital issues of contemporary Jewish life.

Also sitting at the head table and participating in the program will be Dr. David Petegorsky of Antioch College.

The United Mizrachi Organization, under whose auspices the dinner is being held, consists of the Mizrachi Organization (S. Spevak, president); the Women's Mizrachi (Mrs. R. Bessin, president) and two groups of Hapoel Hamizrachi (H. Roodman, president.)

Reservations for the dinner may be made with Mrs. L. Petegorsky at 3-7325 or Mrs. R. Bessin at 3-9423.

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Oscar Z. Fasman, Rabbi

A. J. Freiman	President
C. Caplan	Vice-president
Thomas Sachs	Vice-President
M. Dworkin	Treasurer
B. Pearl	Hon. Secretary
L. Harry Goldman	General Secretary

STRONGHOLD AND STRONGER HOLD

The aspirations of a people have deeper roots than those of an individual and the aspirations of a minority people have deeper roots than those of a nation well established. Deeper than any are the roots of the Jewish hope, that has been nourished through many arduous centuries, for the intensity of the Zionist ideal derives from the absolute will of a stiff-necked people.

What are the factors in modern Zionism? On the one hand, we know that anti-semitism has driven many Jewish thinkers to conclude that we must have our own country. Whether because the world at large rejected us, or because even those who were accepted lived in an unnatural atmosphere, the theory gained prominence that only where we can escape from the evils of minority status can we become a healthy nation.

Nobody will deny that this type of motivation gives powerful impetus to the idea of forming a Jewish state. In the desire to develop an independent culture, to depart from the fatuous mimicry of a sycophantic existence, a goodly number of our dreamers envisioned an almost Utopian commonwealth in the land of our birth. To the credit of the dream, its realism was sufficiently vital to create a program of action. Thus, flight from the dreary sorrows of living everywhere as exotics furnished modern Zionism with a stronghold.

Many in Israel, nevertheless, are convinced that there is a more positive course for the philosophy of Zionism. These people argue that the Hebrew genius is a design woven into the tapestry of civilization by the exalted truths of the divine law. There is added to all the arguments about the dangers of being in galuth the thought that the voice of the Torah, speaking within the heart of its children, summons them to the restoration of its sanctuary. The concrete vehicle through which that thought appeared upon the stage of modern history was the Mizrahi movement. Mizrahi emphasized that the other approaches of the movement can, and indeed do, build for it a stronghold; but the religious approach gives us an even stronger hold. Events of the last few years have dramatized, through Mizrahi pioneers, that the hands which lay tefillin use a rifle effectively, when necessary, and cling to the plow, the hoe and the spade with an unbreakable grip.

THE JEWISH ARMY

With Dr. Weizmann's public expression of disappointment over the refusal of England to permit the formation of a Jewish army in Palestine, this issue has become the topic of discussion everywhere in the world. It clamors for our attention all the more now that we are thinking of the first Chanukah candle next Sunday evening, to commemorate the unique military accomplishments of the heroic Maccabean forces. It is timely, therefore, to consider certain aspects of the problem.

It must be understood at the outset that those who advocate such an army today do not propose that the Jewish citizens of the countries warring against Hitler are to enlist in the Jewish army, rather than in the army of their land. Quite the contrary, Canadian Jews are to enlist in the Canadian services, American Jews in the American Services, etc. What is asked of Great Britain is that the tens of thousands in Palestine who have volunteered to create a Jewish army, similar to that of the Poles, the Dutch, and the Norwegians, be encouraged to act upon their offer. Into the ranks of that army would also come many thousands of brave Hebrew boys who have been left by the European upheaval without a country, and who, because of international difficulties, cannot find entrance into any of the other regular armies in the field. Thus, the Jewish army would furnish the rallying ground for a major instance of total war against Nazism.

Again, we readily realize that apart from the question of numbers in uniform on the side of democracy, there is the all-important consideration of morale. With both the Libyan and the Caucasian campaigns threatening the integrity of Palestinian soil, the Jews of the Holy Land would work wonders in protecting it, and perform yet greater deeds than those of the Jewish soldiers in the various British units in the Near East, were they shown this confidence by the English government and enabled to fight beneath the standard of Zion. In acknowledging the clear facts of history, we know that the War of Independence waged by Mattathias and his sons swept to an unbelievable triumph, because they and their followers carried in their heart the invincibility of safeguarding their home.

The powerful voices that were heard recently in the British Parliament based their opinions not only upon the fulfilment of an obligation to the earliest victim of Hitler, but upon the deep-seated conviction that an all-out war must resort to all-out methods. The political implications for the future development of Palestine, that seem to worry some of the ministers in the Churchill cabinet, must not prevent the complete utilization of every source of strength available to the military authorities. The enthusiasm of the young men on the eastern shore of the Mediterranean deserves immediate grateful acceptance, and the Jewish army should swiftly appear on the battlefield.

Let us hope that Chanukah, 5702, will mark the occasion of the embodiment of the Hasmonean spirit in a worthy successor to the unforgotten army of twenty-one centuries ago.

HERMAN ROODMAN HONOURED

In an unusual demonstration of tribute various organizations in Ottawa have taken the marriage of Mr. Herman Roodman to Miss Zelda Dworkin as the opportune occasion to express gratitude for his faithful service in the community. Rarely does a man have so many achievements to his credit so early in life.

The Jewish National Fund Council, of which he is the executive director, is having his name and the name of his new wife inscribed in the Ussishkin Golden Book. The Poel Hamizrachi, of which he is president, presented the couple with a very appropriate Jewish volume. The Bnai Brith of Ottawa, of which he has been an industrious secretary for several years held a kosher dinner stag at the Talmud Torah Hall, where he was presented with a valuable flat silver service for eight. The Hanoar Study and Breakfast Club of which Mr. Roodman was the director for several years, will shortly devote one of its Sunday sessions to honoring him.

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Tennis Club to Give Junior Memberships

The Tel Aviv Tennis club has notified Rabbi Fasman, through its president Moe Shaffer, that it will give free junior memberships to ten children who distinguish themselves in the Ottawa Talmud Torah and two children who distinguish themselves in the Ottawa Hebrew Sunday School. At a staff meeting of the Ottawa Talmud Torah held Tuesday morning, Nov. 25th, a system of points was set up in which credit is given for such matters as regularity of attendance, class conduct, and frequency of synagogue attendance. The offer should work out to the benefit of all concerned, since it will stimulate a greater interest in their studies among the boys and girls of Ottawa, and it will bring to the courts youngsters who have shown themselves worthy of the high standards of the Club.

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MEN IN UNIFORM GUESTS

On Thursday evening, Nov. 27, the Y.L.P. held its first entertainment of the season for out-of-town soldiers and airmen stationed in Ottawa. Dancing, singing and refreshments marked a very enjoyable evening at the Talmud Torah Hall for more than twenty guests, who expressed deep gratitude for the hospitality extended to them by both the Y.P.L. and the B'nai Brith War Services Committee.

WHOSE FAULT IS IT?

The Ottawa Jewish Bulletin tries to serve faithfully all the recognized Jewish organizations in the city. If you have been asking yourself why your organization fails to receive the proper recognition in the columns of the Bulletin, why not ask whoever is responsible for its publicity? Not infrequently does a call come in to the office of the Vaad Ha'Ir, asking that an item be inserted, the day after all the copy has been submitted to the printer. Because the publication cannot appear on a specific date for technical reasons, the safest procedure is to send in the news you have as early as it is available.

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This year we light the first Chanukah candle Sunday evening, December 14, adding one candle on each successive night, until eight will be lit on Sunday night, December 21.

SHABBOS CANDLES

December 12 1941	5:03 p. m.
December 19 1941	5:04 p. m.
December 26 1941	5:07 p. m.
January 2 1942	5:13 p. m.
January 9 1942	5:21 p. m.

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A MITZVAH YOU WANT

Jewish women have traditionally been interested in keeping every Sefer Torah properly clothed in an attractive "Mentello". In one or two of our synagogues there is an opportunity to perform this mitzvah, since some of the "Mentellech" are beginning to show the wear and tear of the years. If this idea appeals to you, why not see the vice-president of your congregation and find out whether you can serve the synagogue in this matter?

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HAVE YOU A ROOM?

The number of those who come to Ottawa from other cities and would like to find a room, or room and board, with a Jewish family increases almost every day. If you can furnish accommodations of this kind, please telephone Miss Helen Abelson at 4-3264 and leave your name.

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CAN YOU SPARE A BOOK?

Brother A. Lieff, chairman of the Bnai Brith War Services Committee, has issued a call to the members of Bnai Brith to bring up a book or two to the meetings, that would help to form a little library for the Jewish men stationed at Petawawa. Books of general interest, as well as of a Jewish nature, will be accepted with thanks.

Chanukah School Programs

The Ottawa Talmud Torah announces its annual Chanukah program, in which the children of the various classes will participate, to be held in the Talmud Torah Hall, Sunday morning, Dec. 21. Songs, recitations in Hebrew and Yiddish, and a short play will be included in the program. The parents of the Talmud Torah children and the general public are welcome to attend. The Ladies Auxiliary of the Ottawa Talmud Torah will present every child with Chanukah candies.

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The Ottawa Hebrew Sunday School will celebrate Chanukah Sunday morning, Dec. 14, at the Osgoode School, with an Informal Dreidel party. Prizes and gifts will be donated by the Sisterhood of the Congregation Adath Jeshurun. (Important notice: Because the building of the Osgoode School will be closed for the holidays at the end of December, there will be no classes in the Hebrew Sunday School on Dec. 21, 28, and Jan. 4. All classes will be resumed on Sunday, Jan. 11.)

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REFUGEE STUDENTS RELEASED

Almost fifty interned refugees have been released in Canada on the basis of the student plan, whereby a Canadian or American sponsor promises the Department of Immigration to see that, upon release, the boy will continue with his studies, and that the sponsor will provide the necessary maintenance and tuition. (People who have applied for interned refugees to be employed in their place of business are still waiting for a final decision in the matter.)

Are you interested in assisting a victim of Hitlerism to his freedom through participation in this plan? If so, Rabbi Fasman will be glad to hear from you.

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AROUND TOWN

Mr. E. Morgan, Superintendent of Playgrounds, has reserved for the use of the Hanoar Study and Breakfast Club the Sandy Hill skating rink (at Somerset East and Nelson) for Monday and Thursday evenings, nine to ten p.m. . . . Tel Aviv Tennis Club is holding a dance at the Chez Henri, Saturday night, December 27th. . . . Mr. Simon Ritt will be chairman of the J.D.C. work in Ottawa, with a principal dinner scheduled to be held Sunday evening, February 1st, 1942. . . . Direct representation of young people in the Vaad Ha'Ir became effective this month, when delegates from the Y.P.L. and Tel Aviv Tennis Club were officially welcomed into the body.

JEWISH FIGHTING MEN

The office of the Vaad Ha'Ir received a copy of The Star Weekly, published in Toronto on November 29th, in which there appears an article by Dr. Arnold E. Esrati, containing many interesting facts about the work of Jewish fighting men in the war. Thus we read:—

Of the 1,549 Palestinian soldiers killed and captured by the enemy while covering the retreat of the British army during the campaign in Greece and Crete, 1,365 were Jews.

The Greek Prime Minister Emanuel Tsouderos highly praised the more than 7,000 Jews who fought with the courageous Greek army on the Albanian front.

General Sir Archibald Wavell spoke in the highest terms of the military exploits of the Jewish soldiers in North Africa "for their remarkable courage and splendid self-sacrifice."

The dock workers of Tobruk are almost entirely Jewish volunteers from Tel Aviv.

In a daring act of service to the democratic front, two Jewish boys of nineteen and twenty completely destroyed a labour camp in Hungary, and were executed later by the Nazis.

In Washington the Russian Embassy released a statement about a month ago "that Jews in the Russian Military Forces are making supreme sacrifices to achieve victory"; while General Sikorsky, the Polish premier and commander-in-chief, decorated twelve Jews with the Order of Merit and three with the Virtuti Military Medal (the Polish Victoria Cross.)

The first woman in England to receive the British Empire Medal was a Jewish girl, Miss Rosalie Gassman, who was decorated for devotion to duty as a telephone operator.

While these statistics are in the process of compilation, it is expected that Jewish heroism in the struggle will be marked by an even greater number of decorations and honours than the splendid record of 1,596 awarded to Jews during the first Great War.

PLEASE NOTICE;

Unless your organization has a regular schedule of meetings arranged to be held at the Talmud Torah, see that Mr. Jack Litwak knows just when and where you are to meet. You are kindly requested to get in touch with him at least one week before you plan to meet there. The Talmud Torah Board has instructed Mr. Litwak that he need not make a room available for the use of a meeting that did not give him such advance notice.

FROM RECENT ONEG SHABBAT SERMONS

It has been said of Mother's Day, either every day in the year is Mother's Day, or none is. Similarly, members of AZA should regard every Friday evening as their Sabbath, else AZA Sabbath fails of its purpose The term "schar limud" means not only money paid by parents for educating their children, but the cost of educating themselves; for we learn to revere those causes that demand financial (or other) sacrifices of us The world of tomorrow will witness many changes in the interpretation of social and economic justice; let our youth realize that one ought not part with his traditional faith in order to be in harmony with them, since Judaism provides a broad humanitarian basis for legitimate progress in this very field . . . Leadership, the Chassidim taught, depends upon those led, just as the top of a ladder reaches a height that depends upon whether the bottom stands low or elevated.

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SAM BERGER JOINS AIR FORCE

Mr. Samuel Berger, K.C., President of the Cong. Agudath Achim, and an outstanding Canadian Jewish leader, will don an Air Force uniform after the first of the year, with the rank of Pilot Officer. The enlistment marks a notable event in a life that has always been distinguished for good sportsmanship, sincere Zionism, constant generosity, and devoted public service. Held in the highest esteem by the Jews of Ottawa, he carries with him their boundless good wishes for a successful career in his new office.

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LAST MINUTE NEWS

As we go to press we learn: Dr. David Petegorsky will be the guest speaker of Y.P.L. Sabbath at the Agudath Achim Synagogue, Rideau St., Dec. 12, 8:30 p.m. Topic: "No Short Cut to Freedom" . . . The Women's Auxiliary of B'nai Brith will hold an elaborate Chanukah Program at the Elgin Theatre, Sunday, Dec. 21 9:00 p. m. . . . The annual Free Loan Tea is scheduled for Feb. 15 (Other organizations are kindly requested to keep the day open.) . . . The new officers of the Hebrew Benefit Society are: M. Shabinsky, President; I. L. Arron, Vice-President; D. Ginsberg, Treasurer; H. Goldenberg, Financial Secretary; H. Gencher, Recording Secretary; I. Sandler, D. Segal, M. Shulman, Trustees; S. Silverman, Inside Guard, I. B. Bodnoff, Marshall.

MR. I. LIEFF, PRINCIPAL,
ANNOUNCES THE TALMUD TORAH
HONOUR ROLL FOR THE MONTHS OF
TISHRI-HESHVAN, 5702.

KINDERGARTEN

1. Millicent Fasman
1. Gita Kizell
2. Norton Lithwick
2. Eli Rabin
3. Wally Halpern
3. Milton Kimmell
3. Mina Kapinsky

PRIMARY CLASS

1. Zelda Soloway
2. Sheila Ballon
3. Edith Held
4. Joe Silver
5. Solly Shinder

CLASS I

1. Norman Saslove
2. Avis Fasman
3. Shirley Zelikovitz
4. Larry Hershhorn
5. Shirley Small

CLASS II

1. Morris Tenenbaum
2. Esther Betcherman
3. Bernard Lerner
3. Tobie Contovnick
4. Abe Greenberg
5. Bessie Contovnick
5. Gerald Polcwin

CLASS III

1. Haym Fasman
2. Abe Tenenbaum
3. Irving Taylor

CLASS IV

1. Benny Greenberg
2. Lionel Rabin
3. Beverley Petegorsky
4. Harold Zelikovitz

CLASS V - VI

1. Miriam Klein
2. Miriam Halpern
3. Sam Goldmaker

YIDDISH CLASS

1. Sylvia Weiner
2. Rosalyn Beckman
3. Louis Aisenberg
3. Anita Goldfield

UPTOWN BRANCH - CLASS I

1. Shirley Dworkin
2. Esther Cohen

UPTOWN BRANCH - CLASS II

1. Molly Schreiber
2. Sylvia Flesher
3. Pearl Feinstein

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(The Talmud Torah has added a useful piece of equipment in the form of a Bulletin Board whose glass top locks over the notices.)